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ABSTRACT

Nigeria is Africa's most populous nation, and one of its richest. During the 1970s, oil prices fueled rapid development. With world-wide crude oil prices now fluctuating, the future of this diverse, turbulent country is uncertain. The unit contains three sections: the Text, Suggestions for the Teacher, and the Slide-Tape Script. An overview of the culture and traditions of Nigeria as well as useful information about the changes which have occurred in recent years are included. (BZ)

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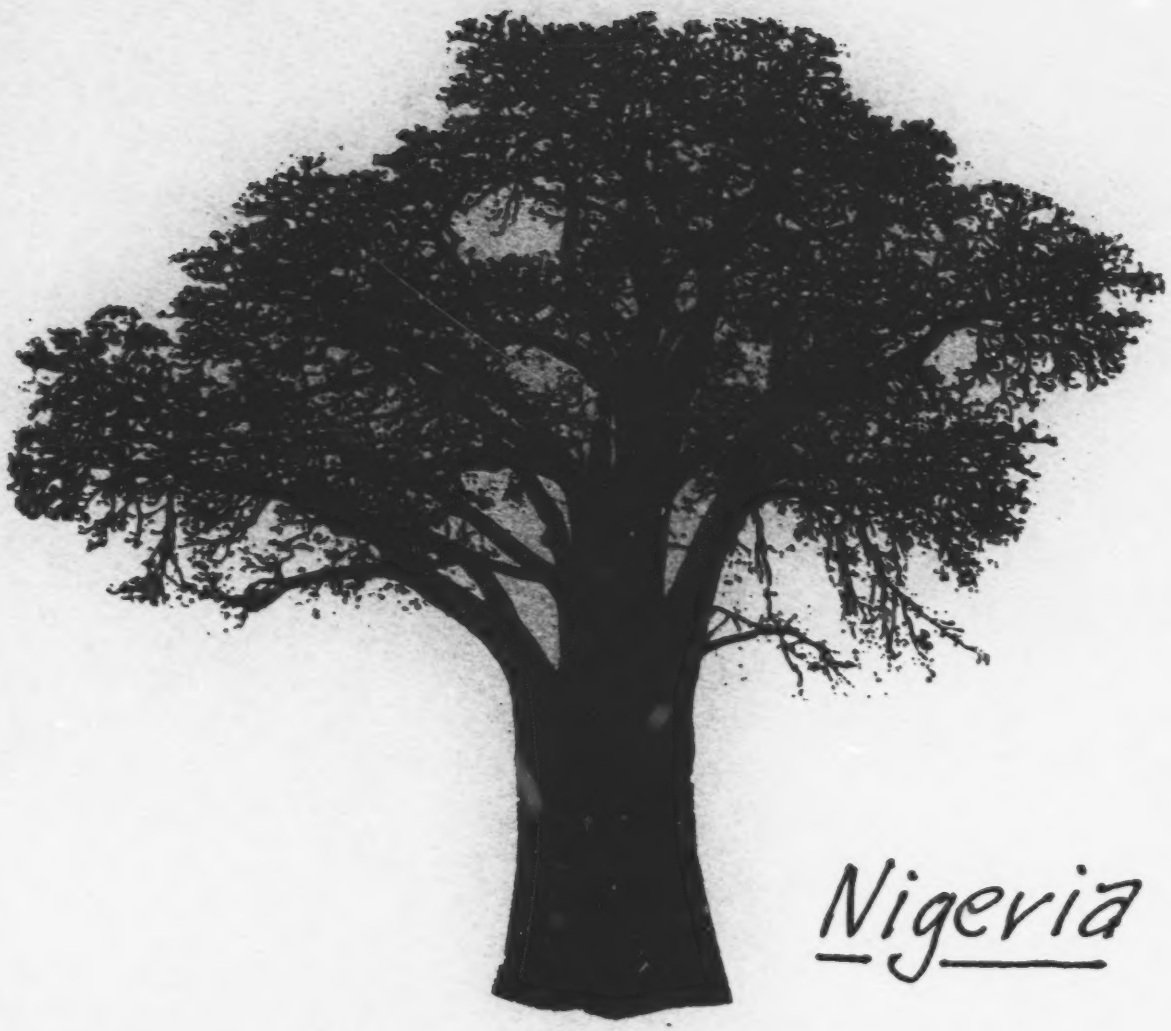

Nigeria

NIGERIA

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Victoria International
Development Education
Association

407 - 620 View St.
Victoria, B.C.
Canada V8W 1J6
T (604) 385-2333

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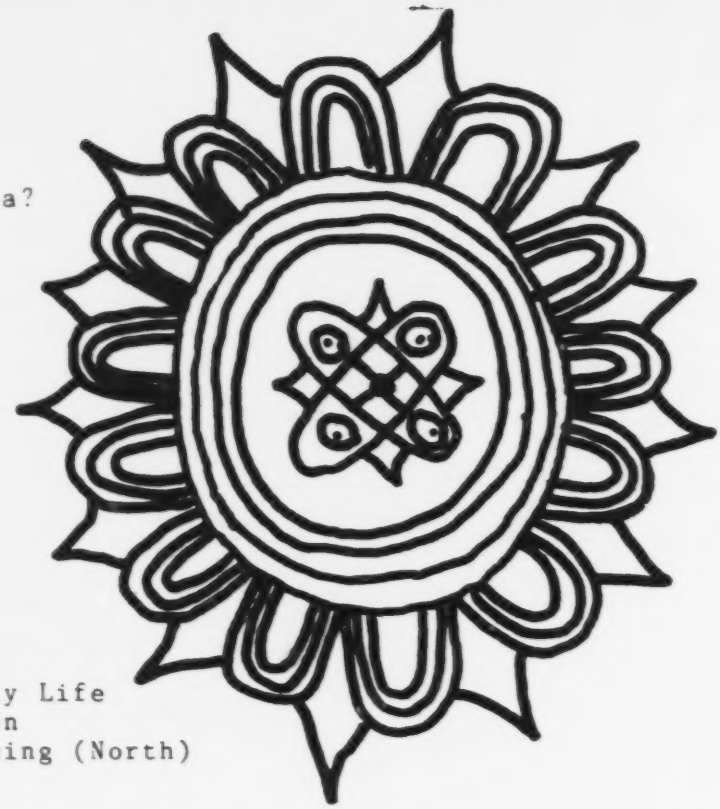

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TEACHER OVERVIEW

The purpose of this kit is to give the teacher a resource that can be used in teaching students about the country of Nigeria, its people and its development.

The kit focuses on the changes that have occurred in Nigeria as a result of independence and modernization. It also presents to students some of the problems that have accompanied modernization, how people are affected and how these problems are being dealt with.

The Nigeria text contains three sections:

1. The Text is divided into units according to subject areas such as The Land, Cities, History, etc. These units can be duplicated and handed out to the class, used for teacher reference, or made into transparencies and shown on an overhead projector. The text covers a wide variety of topics which give the teacher the opportunity to choose which areas they would like to focus on.

2. Suggestions for the Teacher is a section which consists of a series of questions, discussion topics, activities, quizzes and research projects. These correspond to the textual material. The teachers can choose what they want to use from the variety of suggestions or use the ideas to adapt to their own methods.

3. The Slide-Tape Script can be used on its own to add to the teacher's knowledge of the country or it can be used in conjunction with the slide-tape, which is sold separately. If the slide-tape is being used we recommend showing the slides first without playing the tape to help the students learn to "read" the photographs. The teacher can use the script to guide the students through the pictures to prepare them for the whole slide-tape presentation.

Introduction
Why Study Nigeria?
Fact Sheet
Arts & Crafts

Crowned Head
Zinc Brass Sculpture
from the 12th-15th
century. From the
city-state of Ife.

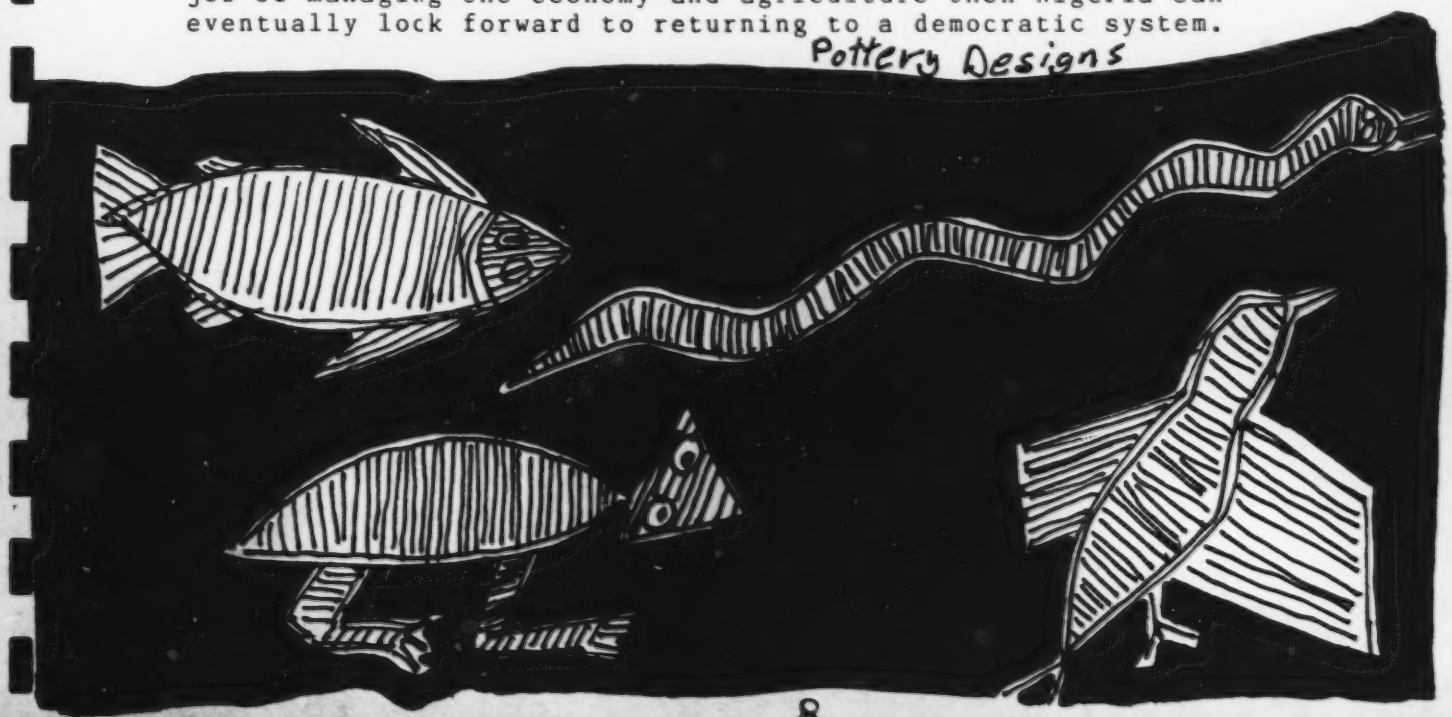
WHY STUDY NIGERIA

With more than 100 million people, Nigeria is the most populated country in Africa--it has the continent's second and third largest cities: Lagos and Ibadan. Economically, Nigeria offers a growing market for Canadian goods and technology.

In addition to its large number of people, the recent Oil Boom and the enormous wealth it has brought Nigeria has made the world focus its attentions on this diverse country. Other than Saudia Arabia, Nigeria sells more oil to the United States than any other country.

This oil wealth has not only let Nigeria develop, making possible free Primary Education, a colour television network (Africa's first), many kilometers of roads, agricultural and medical schemes but has also caused many problems. People want their share of the wealth. Many Nigerians, especially the young, are moving from the farms to the cities. This leaves the growing of food to the older people who cannot always cope with the heavy labour involved. When people leave their traditional homes many of the customs and ties with the family break down. Most of the people in Nigeria are still very poor. Although the average income is $1,010 U.S. a year, the majority of people make less than this.

Yet, other African nations look at Nigeria with admiration and envy. Its oil income will, if properly managed, continue to make Nigeria a relatively wealthy country. If Nigeria's new military government does a good job of managing the economy and agriculture then Nigeria can eventually look forward to returning to a democratic system.



FACT SHEET

Area:	924,000 sq. km. - about the size of British Columbia
Population:	100 million (estimated).
Capital City:	Lagos (population 3 million) A new capital is now under construction in central Nigeria It is expected to be called Abuja.
Climate:	hot and humid; less humid as you move north.
Official Language:	English
Other Principal Languages:	Hausa, Ibo, Yoruba, Fulani
Principal Religions:	Islam, Christianity, traditional tribal beliefs
Chief Commercial Products:	Oil,cocoa,peanuts,cotton,palm oil
Currency:	Naira .75=$1.00 U.S.
Former Colonial Status:	British Colony (1914-1960)
Independence Date:	October 1, 1960
Chief of State:	Major General Mohammed Buhari
National Flag:	Three vertical stripes - green, white, green
Per Capita Income:	$1,010 U.S.
Adult Literacy:	30%
Life Expectancy:	49 years

Percent of Labour Force in:
Agriculture: 54% Services: 27% Industry: 19%

Urban Population:	20%
Infant Mortality Rate:	(0-1year) 13.5%
Child Death Rate:	(1-4Years) 2.8%

Daily per capita Calorie Supply as percent of Requirement: 83%

Percentage of Age group enrolled in:

Primary School:	80%
Secondary School:	30%
Higher Education:	2%

ARTS AND CRAFTS

In Nigeria art is more often found in daily life than in museums. For centuries art and music have been a very important part of the religious and cultural life of the Nigerian people. Artistic works were not simply looked at for pleasure, but were used in temples, shrines, and rituals.

However, until about fifty years ago African art and music were not appreciated by the people of Europe and America because it was very different from what they were used to. It was from this African music, though, that jazz, rock and roll, and reggae developed. It was from African sculpture that Picasso and many other modern artists took their inspiration.

Even seven hundred years ago Nigeria was ahead of its time in artistic accomplishments. At this time in Ife, heads were being sculpted of bronze. The method used to make them was called the "lost wax" process. This was a difficult and complicated method that only very skilled artists could use. The method is still used today in different parts of the world.

The "lost wax" process consists of modelling the sculpture in wax, covering it with clay and then baking it. This causes the wax to melt and run out. It is, therefore,"lost" through the holes in the bottom of the clay. The holes are then plugged and liquid bronze is poured in. The sculptures produced by this method seem almost real.

Nigerian art is not confined to the past. Carvers working in the woods from Nigeria's forests create beautiful sculptures which sometimes blend the modern with the traditional.

The people of Bida, who once made armour for tribal warriors, are famous for their glass beads, metal work and jewellery.

Creating calabash ware is an important craft. Calabash gourds are dried and then hollowed out. The resulting bowls are carved with intricate designs.

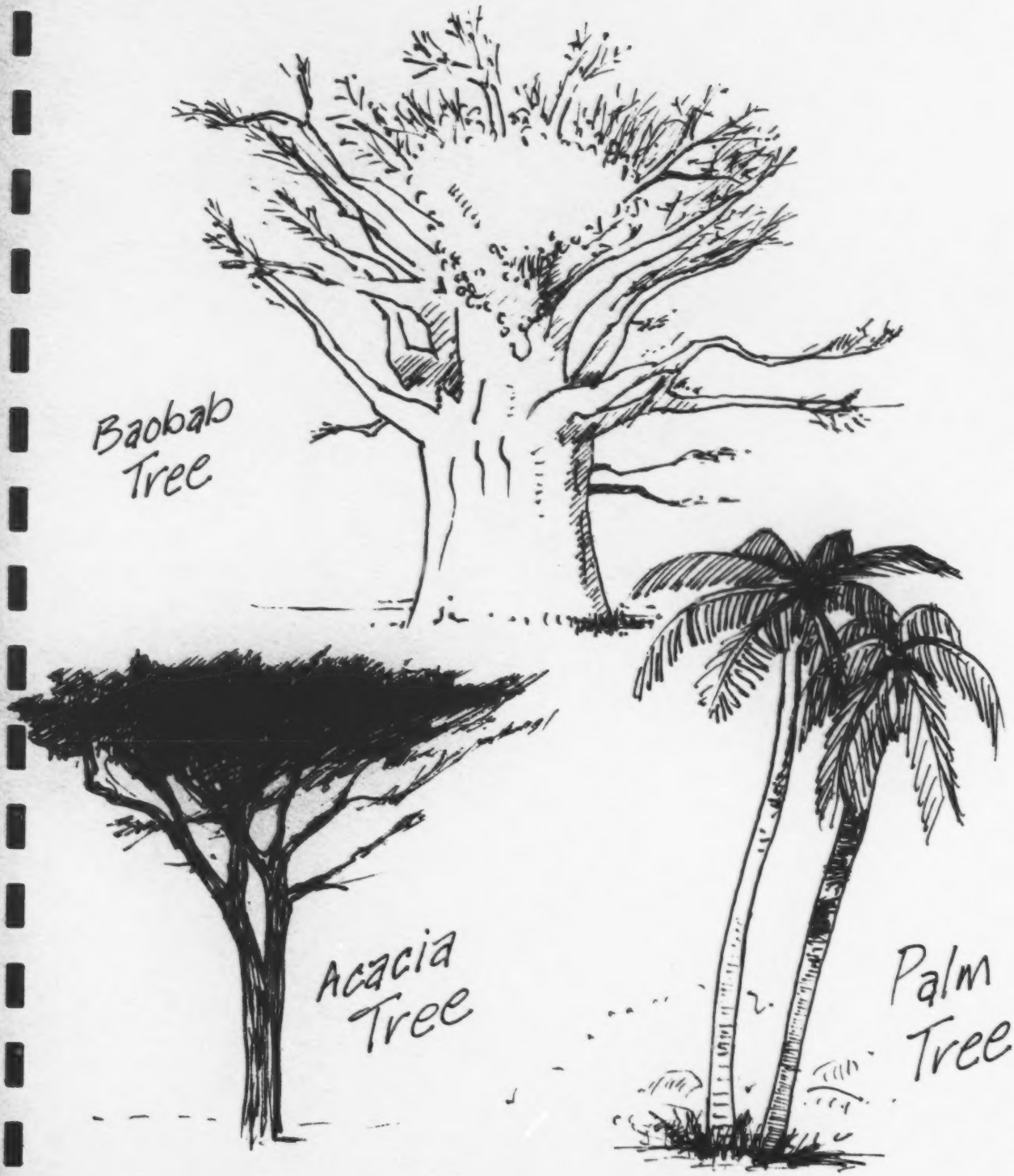
Important cottage crafts in the north inc[illegible] leather work. Highly skilled workers make poufs, handbags,

ARTS AND CRAFTS CONT'D

suitcases and rugs. Cotton is woven into long strips which are sewn together and then dyed. This is done in huge clay pits. The dyers often use indigo, the same dye used for blue jeans.

Music and dance are also important in the lives of the people. Traditional instruments, such as drums, flutes or various stringed instruments are played in the rural areas. In the cities it is more common to hear the electric guitar and the saxophone.

In 1977 Nigeria held the International Festival of Black Arts and Culture. People came from all over the world to share their arts and culture with those of Nigeria.


Baobab Tree
Acacia Tree
Palm Tree

Position in Africa

CHAD

NIGER

Lake Chad

Katsina

Kano

NIGERIA

Zaria

Maiduguri

Kaduna

Jos

Abuja (New Capital)

BENUE RIVER

NIGER RIVER

BENIN

CAMEROON

Ife

Ibadan

Lagos

Warri

Port Harcourt

Atlantic Ocean

GULF OF GUINEA

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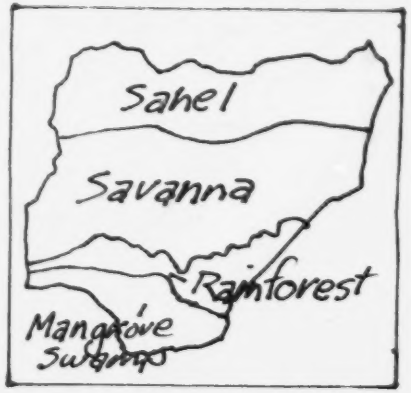
Climatic Zones



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THE LAND

Nigeria's area is about 925,000 square kilometers. Its greatest length from east to west is more than 1,120 km (700 miles) and from north to south 1040 km (650 miles).

Nigeria's boundaries include:

South	-- Gulf of Guinea
East	-- Cameroon
North-East	-- Chad
North	-- Niger
West	-- Benin

Nigeria is divided into four vegetation regions:

1. Mangrove Swamp -- Rainfall: 220 to 330 cm (100 to 150 inches) a year.

2. Rainforest -- Rainfall: 150 to 220 cm (60 to 100 inches) a year.

3. Savanna -- Rainfall: 50 to 150 cm (20 to 40 inches).

4. Sahel -- Rainfall: 50 cm (20 inches)

Because Nigeria is near the equator, this means there is no winter or summer. There is a dry season though, which starts in November and lasts until March, and then there is a rainy season.

The temperature in the southern part of Nigeria is always about 27 degrees Celcius (80 degrees F.) but the air is very humid and the people soon feel tired. As you go north the weather becomes drier. It can be as hot as 43 degrees C (110 F.) and as cool as 19 degrees C (67 F.) at night.

The name Nigeria comes from the Niger River. It is the country's longest river and the eleventh longest in the world (4168 km). This is 110 km more than the St. Lawrence, Canada's largest river.

The Niger flows from the west and the Benue, another important river, flows from the east. The two rivers meet in the middle of the country and flow south into the Gulf of Guinea.

LAND CONT'D

Nigeria has some of the busiest ports in the world. Lagos is the most important port followed by Port Harcourt and Warri from where the oil is shipped, plus Calabar and several other ports which are in the process of being built.

Nigeria has a number of large cities. Some of the largest are Lagos, Ibadan, and Kano. The south-western part of the country has many cities with large populations. The Yoruba, a tribe which traditionally live in this area, have always tended to live in cities.

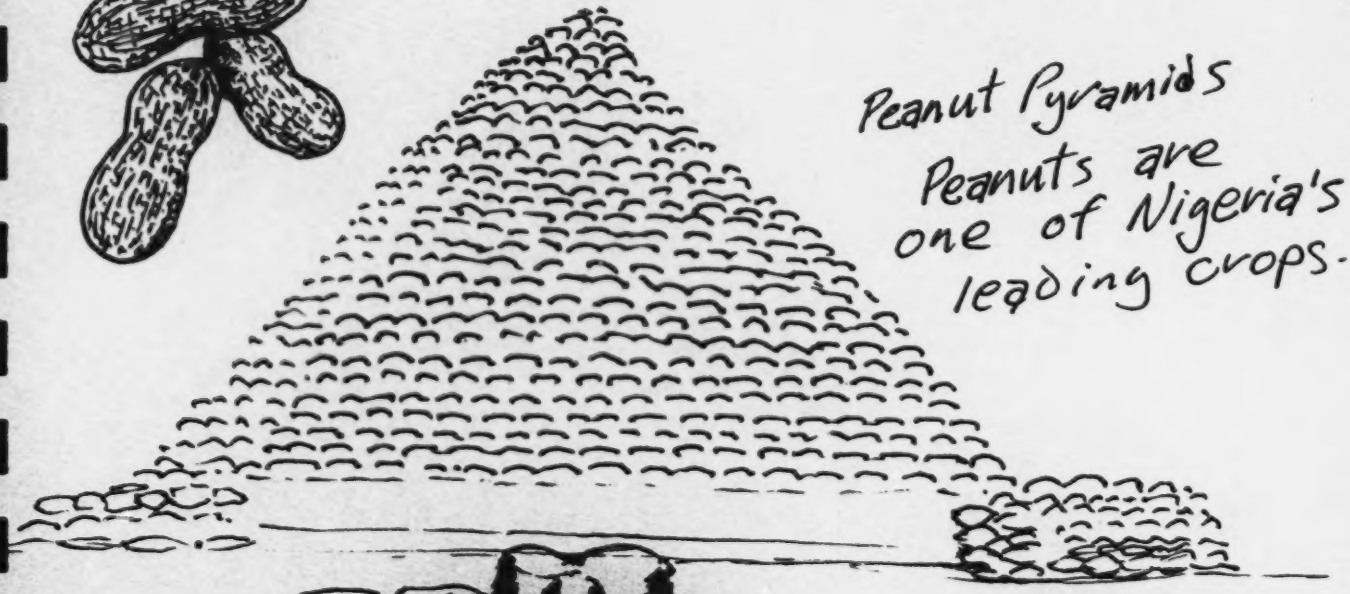
The government wants to move the capital of the nation from Lagos in the south to Abuja, which is exactly in the centre of Nigeria. However, a city must first be built at this location. Because of the recent drop in oil prices meaning less money for the government, this move will likely not take place for some time. Until Abuja is ready the government will remain in Lagos.

Mangrove swamp found in Southern Nigeria, especially in the delta of the Niger River.

Economy
- Agriculture
- Food
- Favourite Chop
- The Kola Nut
- Markets
- Industry

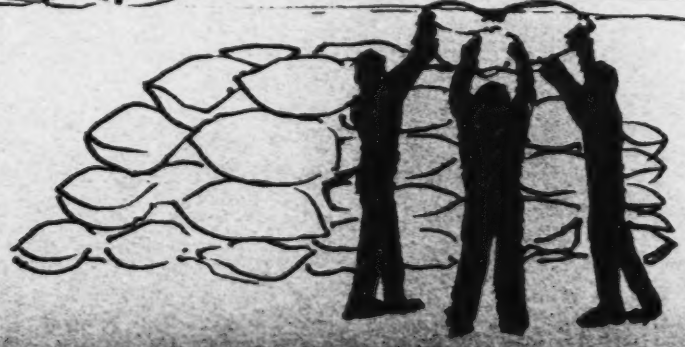
Cotton plant with cotton ball

Woman with mortar and pestle (traditional method of food preparation used throughout Africa.



Peanut Pyramids

Peanuts are one of Nigeria's leading crops.



Agriculture

Until oil was discovered, agriculture was the life-blood of Nigeria's economy. Ten years ago, seven out of ten Nigerians made a living from agriculture. Now only about half the people depend on agriculture for a living. These are mainly on subsistance farms, where the farmer, himself, produces most of the food his family needs and sometimes he sells or trades part of his harvest.

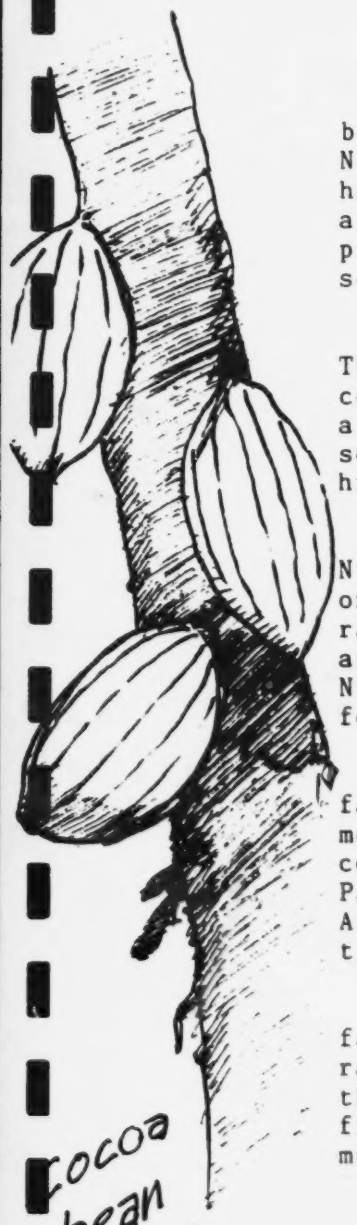
The farms are more like gardens than Canadian farms. The Nigerian farmer does not have tractors, tillers or combines. His tools consist of a machete (a long knife) and a simple hoe. The farmer and his family do all the work and sometimes if there is a really heavy job clearing new land, his neighbours come to help.

Unlike some of the other large countries of Africa, Nigeria has a lot of good land. Before the oil boom it not only fed the largest population on the continent but also raised many cash crops. Cash crops are not used at home, but are sold in markets, in cities or to other countries. Nigeria used to depend on money made from cash crops to pay for schools, roads, hospitals etc.

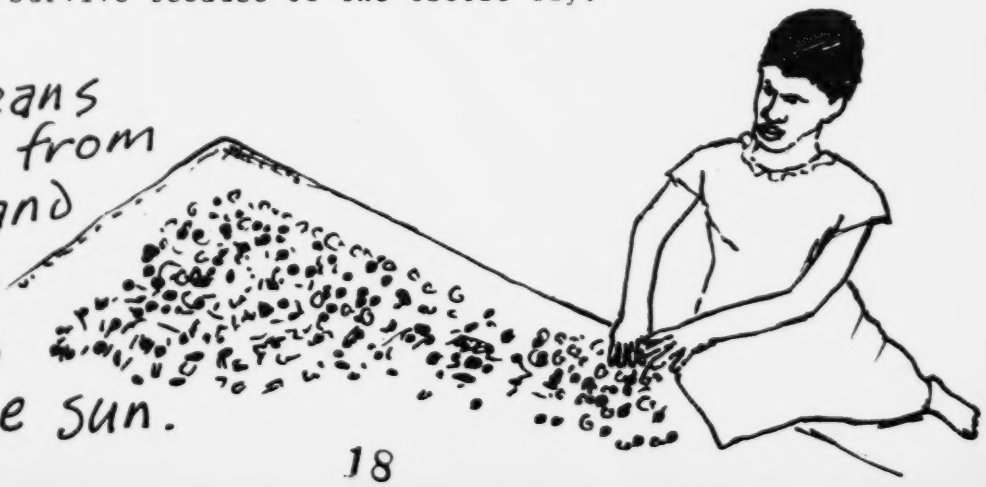
The many climates of Nigeria allow a great variety of farm products to be raised: In the north, cotton, cattle for meat and hides, and groundnuts (peanuts), and in the south, cocoa, palm oil for cooking oil and soaps (you've heard of Palmolive), and rubber. These crops were raised for export. Although peanuts and cocoa are still sold to other countries, the other products are used mainly in Nigeria.

Nigeria has many problems which make life difficult for farmers. One of the fears of northern farmers is that the rain may not fall. When this happens the earth dries up and the crops will not grow. The result is famine. This happened from 1968 to 1974. Sometimes the opposite happens and too much rain falls and washes away the newly planted seeds.

The tsetse fly is still a big problem. This fly carries sleeping sickness to humans, cattle and horses. The middle savanna region of Nigeria would be a perfect place for cattle raising but it cannot be developed since animals cannot survive because of the tsetse fly.



cocoa bean pods



cocoa beans are removed from their pods and then spread out on mats to dry in the sun.

AGRICULTURE CONT'D

The land owning system also creates some problems. The land is owned by the government or perhaps the tribe. A farmer uses what land he needs but he cannot sell it. So a farmer is discouraged from making improvements because the land is not his own and his children may be unable to inherit it.

With the population growing so quickly, Nigeria must try harder to grow more food to feed its people. Also farmers need to grow more cash crops to pay for the roads, schools, and hospitals now that world oil prices are dropping and the government is getting less oil money.

FOOD ALSO CALLED "CHOP" IN NIGERIAN PIDGIN

In Nigeria just as in most parts of the world people eat a starchy food with a sauce containing some meat and vegetables.

In India the starch is rice and the sauce is curry.

In China the starch is also rice or noodles with chop suey or other stir fried meat and vegetables.

Italy's favourite is spaghetti with some kind of meat sauce.

Nigerians use several different starches.

African-Yams--enormous roots that taste much like potatoes
Gari --a porridge made from cassava flour
Millet --a grain which is ground into flour
Maize --like our corn, only starchier
Plantain --similar to bananas only starchier and not as sweet

The women pound each of these foods in a mortar to make a flour or pulp which is then cooked to make a porridge. This is served with a hot spicy sauce called soup, containing vegetables and whatever meat or fish the family can afford. Nigerians like very hot spicy food.

FAVORITE CHOP

FUFU -- a favourite dish in Southern Nigeria. Pounded yam, which is a little like mashed potatoes is served with a sauce that has fish, chicken, or meat.

JOLLOF RICE -- a dish of rice cooked in a hot pepper tomato sauce with chicken.

EGUSI SOUP -- a sauce made with melon seeds (like pumpkin seeds) served with pounded yam, gari or millet porridge.

PLANTAINS -- a fruit similar to banana. Sometimes fried and sometimes pounded, cooked and served with a sauce.

MEALS

What foods do you like to eat with your fingers? Maybe french fries, hamburgers or even chicken. Sometimes foods taste even better that way. The best way to eat traditional Nigerian food is with the fingers. First you take some porridge and make it into a ball then you make an indentation (hollow or dent) with the thumb and then dip the ball into the sauce.

The number of snack foods available in the market place can be astonishing. People especially like chewing on sugar cane, nibbling roasted maize or pieces or broiled meat on sticks, bean cakes and many other items.

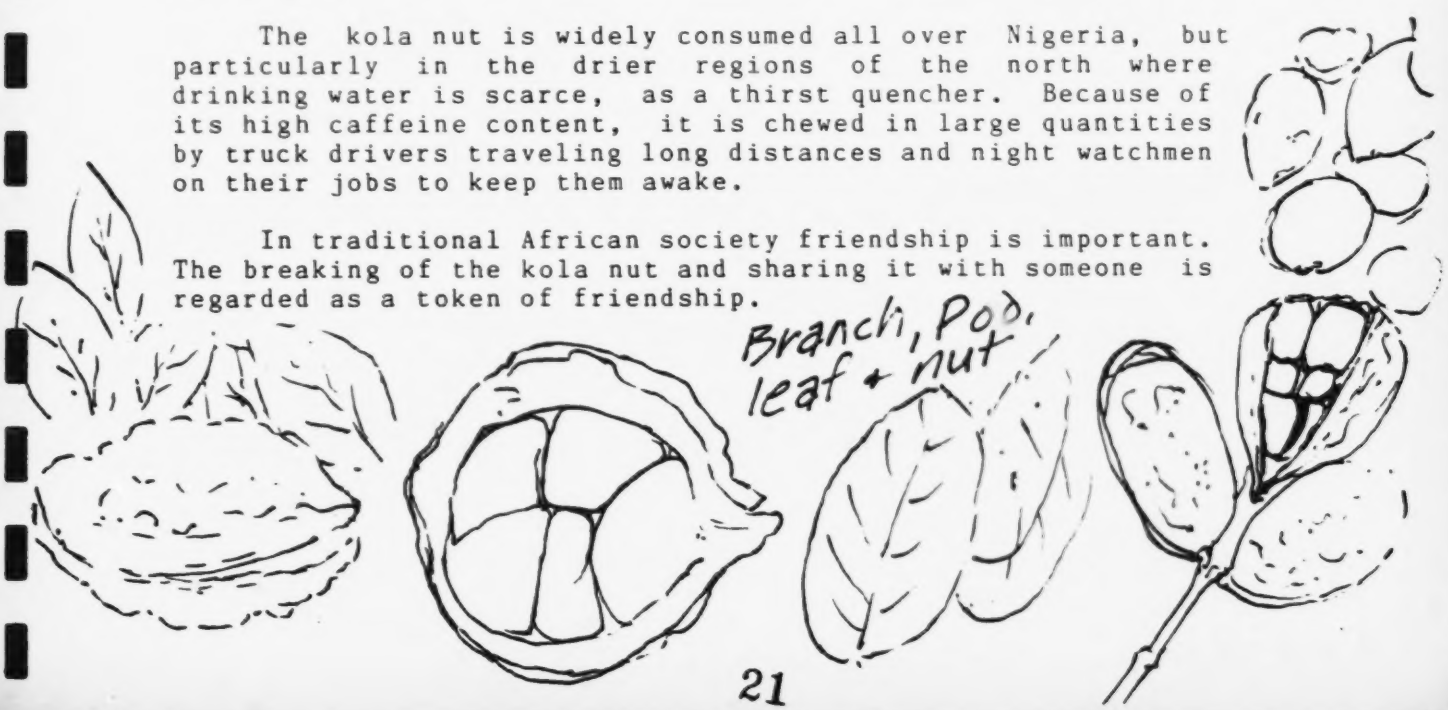
In urban areas, many families have adopted the steak and potatoes of western cuisine. This would be eaten with a knife and fork which has become popular in the cities.

THE KOLA NUT

The kola nut is very important to Nigeria. It is supposed to be the secret ingredient in Coca Cola. For Muslims whose religion forbids them to drink alcohol, coke is a popular drink. That is only a small part of the kola nut's use.

The kola nut is widely consumed all over Nigeria, but particularly in the drier regions of the north where drinking water is scarce, as a thirst quencher. Because of its high caffeine content, it is chewed in large quantities by truck drivers traveling long distances and night watchmen on their jobs to keep them awake.

In traditional African society friendship is important. The breaking of the kola nut and sharing it with someone is regarded as a token of friendship.



MARKETS

Most cities and towns in Nigeria have outdoor markets. The price you pay for an item is decided by bargaining whether you are buying a tube of toothpaste or a kilo of meat. When a person decides what he wants to buy he asks the price. The trader (seller) always gives a price higher than the item is worth. The buyer then looks at the item and points out any faults it has. Then she offers a price much lower than the item is worth. The seller tells about all the good qualities of the item. Gradually the seller lowers the price and the buyer raises hers until they come to an agreement. Often it sounds as if they are having a serious argument. All this takes more time than we have to spend for shopping in Canada.

Usually prices for farm products are set by supply and demand. In the planting season prices are very high and in the harvest season they fall.

The prices for machine made goods like clothing are usually more stable.

Many Nigerians live in the family compound and eat the food their family grows. They do not have much money to spend. There are special traders in the market who cater to them. These traders sell cigarettes one by one. Envelopes, pieces of paper and even matches can be bought a few at a time--it is not necessary to buy a whole package. These traders make up their business with the large numbers of customers they get.

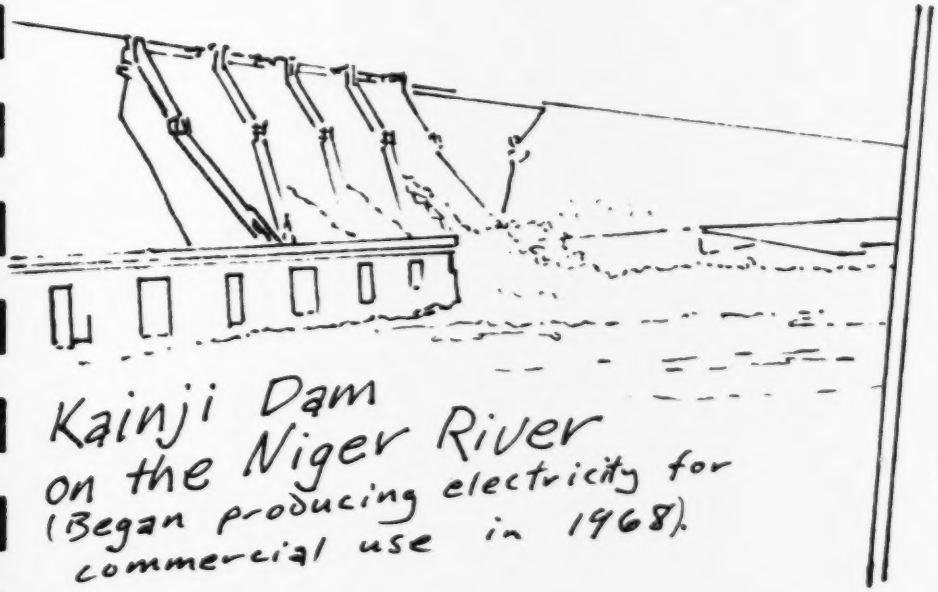
INDUSTRY

Nigeria's oil wealth has brought the people more money to spend on manufactured goods: cars, clothes, processed food, appliances, etc. Although many of these things are imported from Europe and America, Nigeria has started industries to help produce these goods its people want. Some of these industries are:

1. Automobile assembly plants, bicycle and tire factories
2. Steel mills
3. Fabric mills
4. Shoe and cosmetic factories
5. Breweries to make beer
6. Fruit and meat canneries
7. Flour mills and sugar factories
8. Factories for radio equipment, electrical goods, and sewing machines

With many people moving to the cities, the government hopes to build 200,000 new housing units each year. As well, new office and industrial buildings are being constructed. This has resulted in many cement and paint factories, lumber mills, houseware, and office equipment plants.

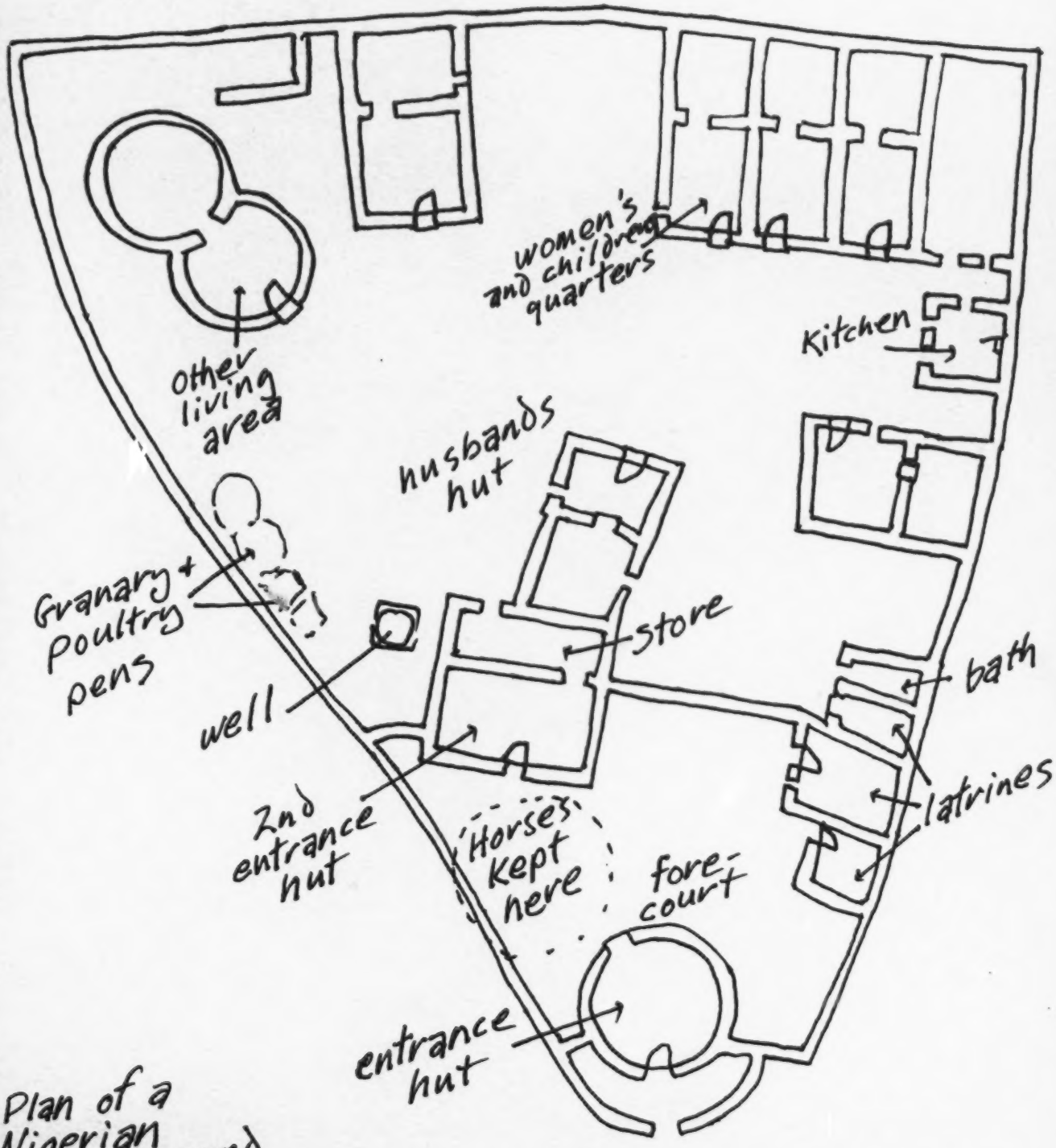
Oil refining has increased rapidly. The refinery produces oil and gas for motor vehicles, kerosene, gas, and oil. Nigerian housewives now use oil products for cooking instead of the firewood that was used for centuries. Most of these oil products are for use in Nigeria but there is also enough to sell to neighboring countries.



Kainji Dam
on the Niger River
(Began producing electricity for commercial use in 1968).

Petroleum works

Rural Life
Marriage & Family Life
Nigerian Children
Traditional Housing (North)
Compound Plan
Self Help



Plan of a Nigerian Compound

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

In Nigeria when a man wants to marry, his relatives visit the girl's parents to get their approval for the marriage. If they agree, the man must pay a "bride price" to the bride's family as a symbol of his appreciation for the care shown by the girl's family in bringing her up.

In the traditional villages a wife goes to live with her husband's family. A Nigerian man may have several wives as long as he can support them all. The Muslim religion in the north allows a man four wives.

There is an African proverb which says, "A person without relatives is as good as dead." This shows how important the family is to a Nigerian. All relatives are treated as close brothers and sisters.

In a traditional household several generations live together in a compound (a group of huts or houses usually surrounded by a wall). This household includes the oldest male, his wives, their unmarried daughters and the sons along with the married son's wives and children. There is no need for old age homes or day care centres because the family takes care of the old people and its children.

NIGERIAN CHILDREN

Unlike Canadian children, who are often kept separate from adults, Nigerian children grow up and live in two worlds--the world of children and the world of adults. Almost from birth they are taken to the farm, to market, to funerals, and parties. They help their parents entertain guests. There are no children's parties such as Canadian children have for birthdays, Christmas, or Halloween. Nigerian children go to all social events where everybody's welcome.

In Canada most children have their own rooms they may share with brothers or sisters. In Nigerian homes they sleep in their mother's hut until the girls marry and the boys are old enough to have their own huts.

Children also take an active and important part in the work of the family. Carrying water, sweeping the compound, and looking after younger children are all duties they do. The children are expected to do this. They do not get an allowance.

TRADITIONAL HOUSING (NORTH)

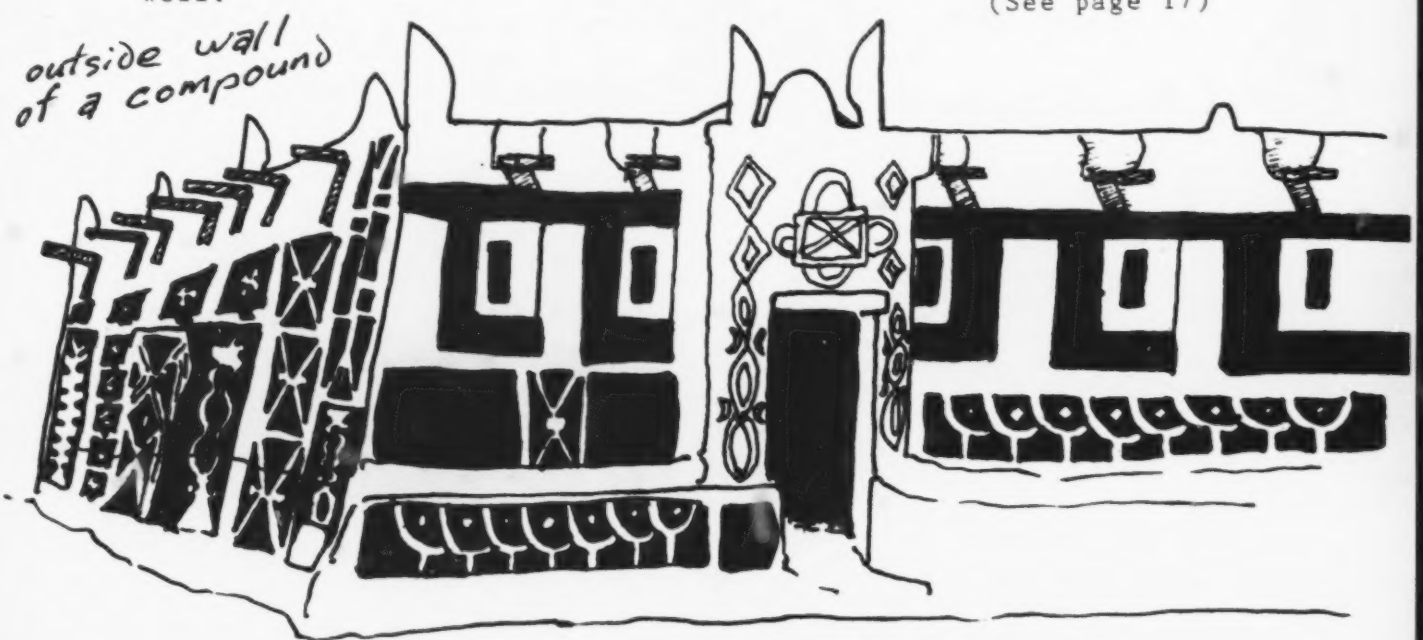
About 600 years ago Muslim Arab traders came across the Saraha Desert to trade their salt for Nigerian gold. These traders introduced the Muslim religion (Islam) to the people of Northern Nigeria. In the beginning Islam was important only in the towns, where it remained for many centuries. Because of the trade the towns grew larger and the people needed a way to improve the security and privacy of the family. Also the new religion had a strict rule about women never being seen in public. Because women had to stay at home, this changed the organization of the homes. Since then very few changes have been made over the centuries.

COMPOUND PLAN

The home is surrounded by a mud wall about three and a half meters high. When you enter the compound, there is a round entrance hut. On the floor are grass mats and goat skins. The head man of the compound often sits here to practice his craft perhaps as a tailor or a weaver. Also here he rests and receives his guests and friends. No male stranger is allowed to come further into the compound. Only a very close friend or an important person is entertained in the second entrance hut.

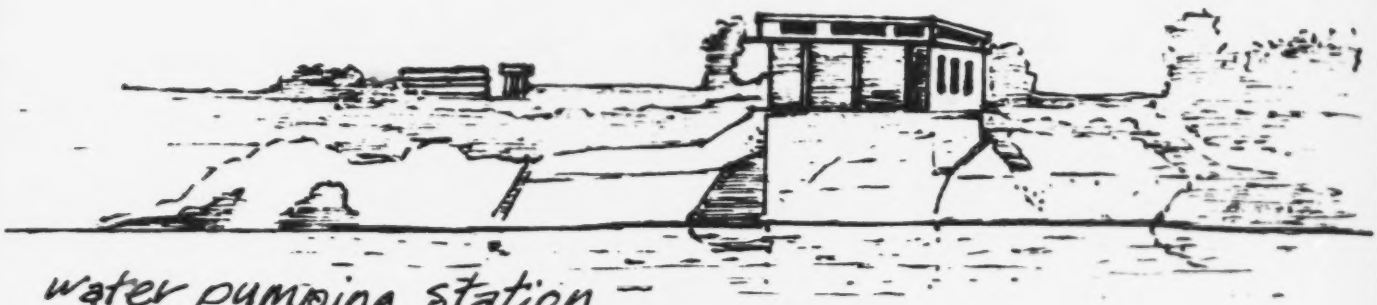
Behind the second hut are the living quarters built around a courtyard. Here you will find a hut for the husband, rooms for the women and children, the kitchen, latrines and bathrooms. Nearly every compound has its own well or piped water because the women can not leave the compound to fetch water. Chicken pens and granaries are in this courtyard as well.

(See page 17)



SELF-HELP

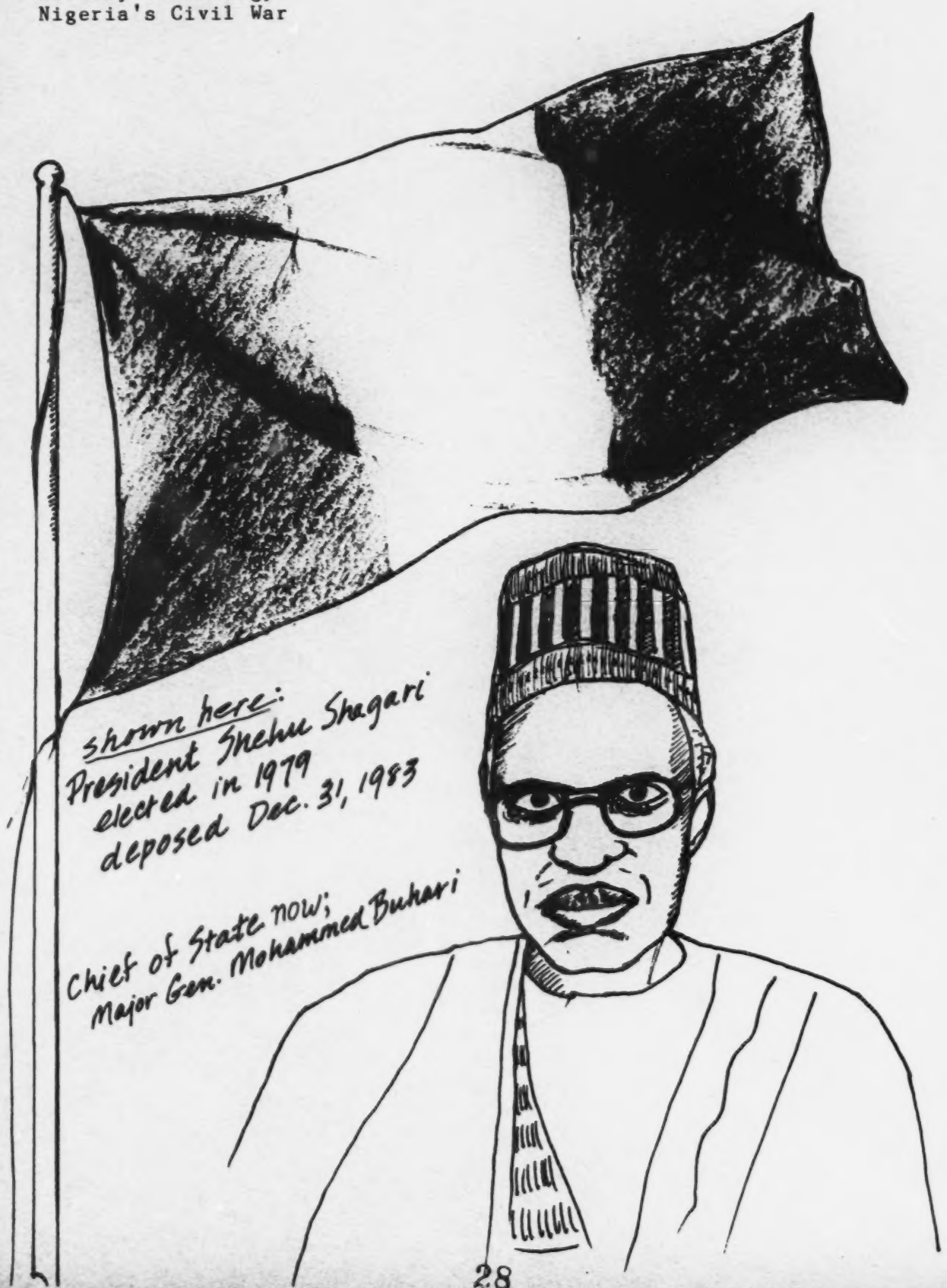
Community development often depends on "self help" projects. The government may pay for hospitals and schools in the cities and towns but not always in the villages so the villagers give their labour, materials, and their own money to make sure their village has paved roads, water taps, a marketplace, a village school, or maybe a community hall.

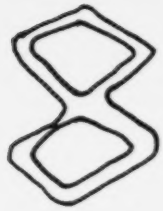


water pumping station — (community project)

Hand weaving is an important small industry all over Nigeria.

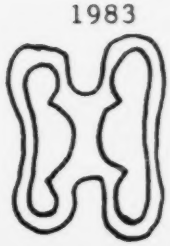
History & Government
History Chronology
Nigeria's Civil War





HISTORY

500 B.C.	Nok culture begins its greatest development.
1200	Ife city-state is at its height.
1500	Benin city-state flourishes.
1500	Slavery is on the increase.
1804	The Fulani conquer the Hausa people.
1842	First Christian Mission schools are started.
1861	Britain takes over Lagos.
1899	First public schools established by the government.
1900	Nigeria becomes an official British protectorate.
1914	Northern and southern Nigeria are united into one colony.
1956	Petroleum is discovered.
1960	Nigeria becomes the sixteenth African state to become independent.
1963	Nigeria's status is changed to a democratic republic.
1966	This is the beginning of military government.
1967	Biafra claims independence--civil war begins.
1970	Civil war ends.
1975	Head of State, Yakubu Gowan is overthrown; Murtala Mohammed becomes Head of State.
1976	Head of State Mutala Mohammed overthrown.
1977	International Festival of Black Arts and Culture in Lagos.
1979	Democracy returns; Shehu Shagari elected President.
1983	Military coup.



These symbols called Adinkira Symbols are hand-stamped on clothing to create a pattern effect.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

The Ibo people's traditional homeland is in south-eastern Nigeria. Gradually over the years, many Ibos went to live in the North, the area where two other big tribes live: the Hausa and the Fulani. The Ibos were disliked by these northern tribes because their education and skills gave them the best jobs in government and business. In 1966, when it seemed as though the Ibo were getting too much power, there was a massacre of Ibos living in the north.

In 1967, the Eastern Region of Nigeria, the Ibo's homeland decided to separate from the nation and declared itself the Independent Republic of Biafra. A bitter civil war followed in which as many as two million people were killed. This war lasted until 1970, when Biafra and the Ibos were defeated and Nigeria became united once again.

Daily Colonist, Victoria B.C. Thursday, November 7, 1968

Nigeria Tries to Match Biafrans in Image War

Biafran Relief

Daily Colonist

Pla... Biafran Defence Stiffens

Fro...

...Biafrans Report Defeat Of 'Formidable' Thrust

OTTAWA (C... sharp said Thursda... ...ve denied a news ... report quoting a N... ...spokesman as saying Canada could have used ... ...d relief into Biafra at least a month ago.

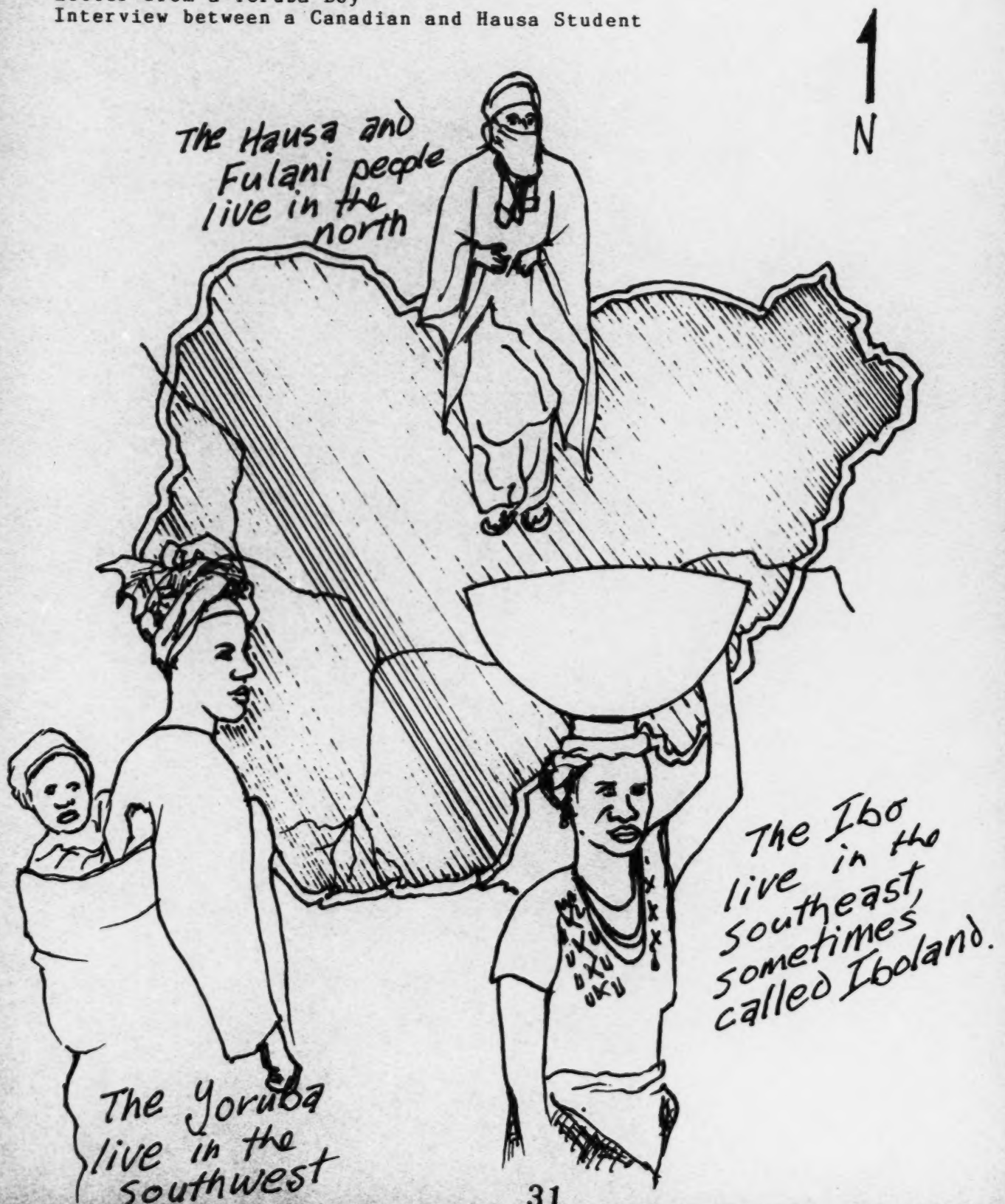
UMUAHIA, Biafra (UPI) — The Biafra account said The Biafra military command said Thursday its forces have crushed a three-day offensive by Nigerian troops in the Owerri-Aboada area.

The communique said civilians were helping bury federal soldiers "so heavy was the death toll." The report made no mention of Biafra losses in repelling what was described ...

Another development Thursday, the Swiss Caritas organization said one of its planes flying relief supplies for war refugees in Biafra was hit by a Nigerian air force plane at Uli airport. Caritas ...

...earson: 30

The People
Tribalism
Clothing
Story of an Ibo Boy
Letter from a Yoruba Boy
Interview between a Canadian and Hausa Student


N
The Hausa and Fulani people live in the north
The Ibo live in the southeast, sometimes called Iboland.
The Yoruba live in the southwest

TRIBALISM

A tribe is a group of people who have the same customs and language and who belive they all come from the same ancestor. In Nigeria there are about 250 of these ethnic groups. The largest of these are the Hausa and the Fulani of the north, the Yoruba of the south-west and the Ibo of the south-east.

In Nigeria the person is often less important than the tribe. Many Nigerians feel a person can only be happy when he is part of a group.

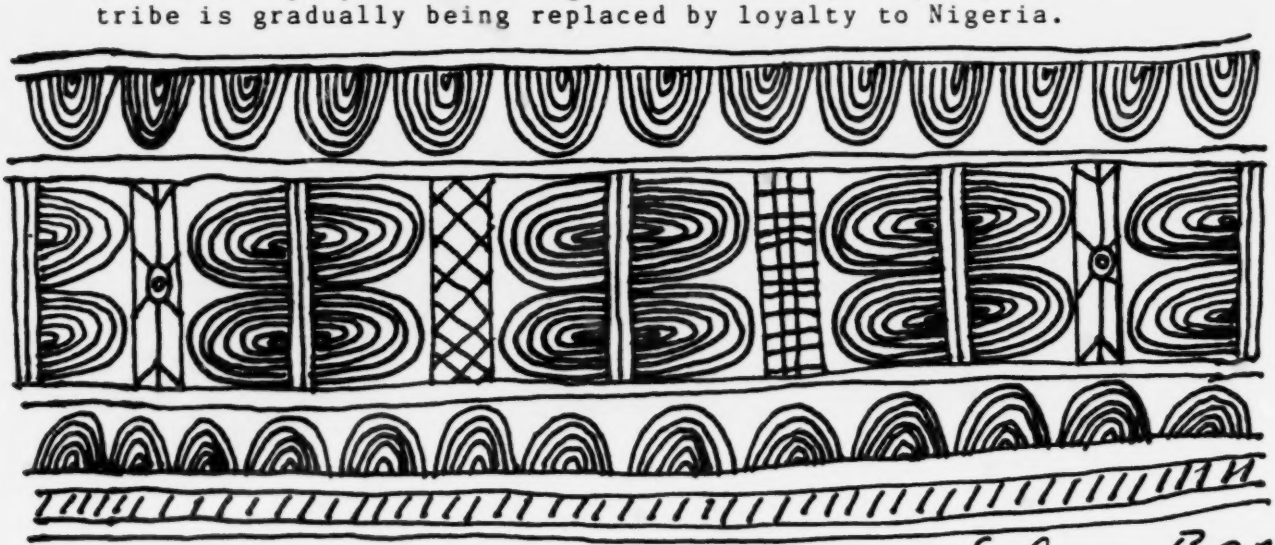
At a very early age a child learns to become a good member of his tribe by learning its laws and customs from his elders. Each member of the tribe does his share of the work and obeys its customs.

At the same time the tribe gives its members security. In bad times a person can turn to other members of the tribe and know that they will help him.

To many Nigerians, the tribe is more important than the nation. A person will often think of himself as a Hausa or a Yoruba rather than a Nigerian. This is because when the Europeans divided Africa among themselves they did not take tribal territories into consideration. Many tribes were split up and found themselves in different countries. And as in the case of Nigeria many different tribes found themselves together in the same country.

With many tribes in the same country there is a problem of communication. Often people in one village do not understand the people living in a neighboring village. No one tribe wants another tribe to have too much power in the government. In elections people often vote for the candidates from their own tribe.

Today as education is becoming more widespread and more and more people are moving to the cities, loyalty to the tribe is gradually being replaced by loyalty to Nigeria.



ornamental motif from Benin (NIGERIA)

CLOTHING

Many people in Nigeria, especially in the south, wear the same kind of clothes Canadians wear in the summer. However, many Nigerians wear traditional dress. In rural areas, people pay little attention to western fashions. They usually wear traditional clothes. In the cities people change depending on the occasion and their personal preferences. A man may wear a business suit to the office where he works and then change into traditional dress once he is home or wear his most lavish agbada (a large, flowing robe) when he is attending some important event.

The most popular traditional outfit for men is trousers and a shirt covered by an agbada, which reaches below the knee. Men tend to wear lighter more pastel colours. Blue is the most popular but pink, mauve, pale yellow and green are also worn. The robes are usually richly embroidered and the wide sleeves can be turned back to the shoulders.

Women wear a cotton wrap-around skirt called a wrapper. Over this, around the waist, goes a long wide piece of cloth called an oja. The blouse is called a bubu. They also wear an elaborate headtie made out of many metres of material. The women usually wear darker cotton prints.

Yoruba Woman

Agbada gown worn by a Yoruba man

Story of an Ibo Boy

In 1970, the end of the Civil War and the tenth year of Independence, a son was born to a young Ibo woman named Ihuna, in a village in the south-eastern corner of Nigeria.

The birth of a child is a time of great joy in the home of the Ibo people. There is a naming ceremony on the eighth day after birth. The parents, friends, and relatives all come to celebrate.

The boy was named Emeka Nwobodo. Emeka means "related to God" and Nwobodo is his last name because an Ibo child takes his father's first name as his last name.

Emeka had a difficult time in his first year. Many children die at this time because of diseases such as fever, dysentery, or malnutrition. When Emeka was a baby, his mother carried him snuggly strapped to her back wherever she went, whether it was weeding the crops or selling fabrics in the market.

Emeka's father works on the oil rigs. He earns more than the $1,010 U.S. a year the average Nigerian makes but he helps out other members of his family. He and his wife take care of two of his nephews, bringing them up until their family can afford to take them back. Nigerians often temporarily adopt children who are relatives to help their parents who are having financial problems.

When people come to visit Emeka's family, the kola nut is always offered to the guests and food is shared as well. It is considered bad manners if either of these is not done.

Emeka's family is Christian. His father has only one wife, unlike many Moslem or traditional families in which the father may have several wives. Emeka dresses usually like children do here, when it is hot, in shorts and short-sleeved shirts.

Emeka's favourite hobby is wrestling. He is the young champion of his village. Wrestling is an important sport in this area of Nigeria. Emeka and his friends often go to the movies. They are held outdoors and are mainly romances from India or Kung Fu movies from Hong Kong. Everybody enjoys them and Emeka and his friends participate in them by cheering or booing. Emeka also likes to watch T.V. Nigeria was the first Black African country to have a television network. Emeka's ambition is to one day be an announcer on T.V. He will have to work very hard at school. His English will have to be very good because T.V. is mostly in English, Nigeria's official language.

297 Murtala Mohamet Rd.
Ife, Nigeria
March 30

Dear Lee,

I was very pleased to get your letter telling all about your life in Victoria. Please greet your family for me. I will try to tell you about my life here in Ife.

Ife is a city about the size of Victoria, but much older and very different.

I live with my family in a compound. (a group of small houses surrounded by a wall.) My mother, my 2 brothers, my sister and I have one small house for ourselves. My father has one other wife who has one son and they live in a different small house. My father also has his own house and his mother has hers also.

Every morning when I get up the first thing I do is bow down to greet my parents. My sister kneels to greet them.

Later we have a breakfast of porridge made from corn called maize. Next we sweep the compound with small brooms. All the children help with the chores.

I wear a uniform to school, a white shirt and shorts. My sister wears a green dress. We leave for school very early because we have to walk 3 kilometers. School begins at 7:30 am. We learn our lessons in our own language (Yoruba) but we learn English too. There

are 41 pupils in my class, 12 girls and 29 boys. Two or 3 pupils sit at each large wooden desk. We all stand up when teacher comes into the class.

When I get home from school we have our big meal of the day. You said one of your favourite foods is a 'big mac'. I don't know what that is, but we don't have it here. What I like to eat best is called Jolly rice. It's rice cooked together with chicken. (We don't get chicken or meat very often.) I also like fried plaintains; they're sort of like bananas.

After the meal we all have a siesta (or short sleep) since it is too hot to play outside. Later my friends and I play soccer just as you do. But we have to finish about 6 o'clock because it gets dark then. This is because Nigeria is near the equator.

Well I must sign off now, but I look forward to hearing from you again.

Yours,

Ayo

(Ayodeji Olatunyi)

INTERVIEW

This is an interview between a northern Nigerian boy, Yussif, aged 12 and a Canadian boy, Kevin, of the same age. Yussif's father is a Hausa and his mother is a Fulani.

Kevin: Hello, I would like you to meet a new friend of mine, Yussif Mamman. He is from a small town near Kano in the north of Nigeria. Hi, Yussif.

Yussif: Sanu, Kevin. That's Hausa for hello.

Kevin: Do you have a nickname or is Yussif what your friends call you?

Yussif: That's what my friends call me but my mother calls me Yaro. It means boy or son. It is sometimes considered bad luck if a mother calls her first son by his name.

Kevin: Where do you go to school, Yussif?

Yussif: In the morning I go to the Koranic school. In Islam, which is my religion, the holy book, like your bible, is called the Koran. It is written in Arabic. It is important for Muslims to learn Arabic because we believe it is the language of God.

Kevin: Can you tell us what Koranic school is like?

Yussif: We go to school at the mallam's home. He is the teacher. We usually study on his porch or under a tree.

Kevin: What do you learn about?

Yussif: We learn the Koran by writing chapters on a wooden board with pens using an erasable ink made from the leaves of certain plants. We recite the passages until we memorize them.

Kevin: Do the students often fool around in class?

Yussif: No, never. If we don't learn our lessons the mallam will sometimes beat us with a switch.

Kevin: What do you do in the afternoon?

Yussif: I go to a regular public school where I learn English.

Kevin: I see you are wearing a robe with trousers underneath and a cap. Is that what you wear all the time?

Yussif: I like to wear western dress, jeans and T shirts or cowboy shirts and sports shoes, but this upsets my parents. They like me to wear traditional dress.

Kevin: What do you do in your spare time, Yussif?

Yussif: I am learning karate and Kung Fu. I also play Ayo (eye-oh). It is a game played on a wooden board

INTERVIEW CONT'D

with 12 cups scooped out. But it is too complicated to explain now. Maybe I'll teach you how to play one day.

Kevin: What are your favourite foods?

Yussif: I like to go to the market and buy meat that is barbecued on sticks or beancakes. Mangoes and roasted peanuts are also favourites of mine.

Kevin: Is there anything you really want to do?

Yussif: Yes, I would like to make a pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudia Arabia. My father went many years ago. He is now called Alhaji. Last year my mother went and now she calls herself Hadjia. These are titles which show others they have made the trip to Mecca. This is one of the main duties of our religion.

Kevin: Is the trip expensive?

Yussif: Yes, it will cost at least $3,000 so I will have to work for many years to save enough money.

Kevin: What are your plans for the future?

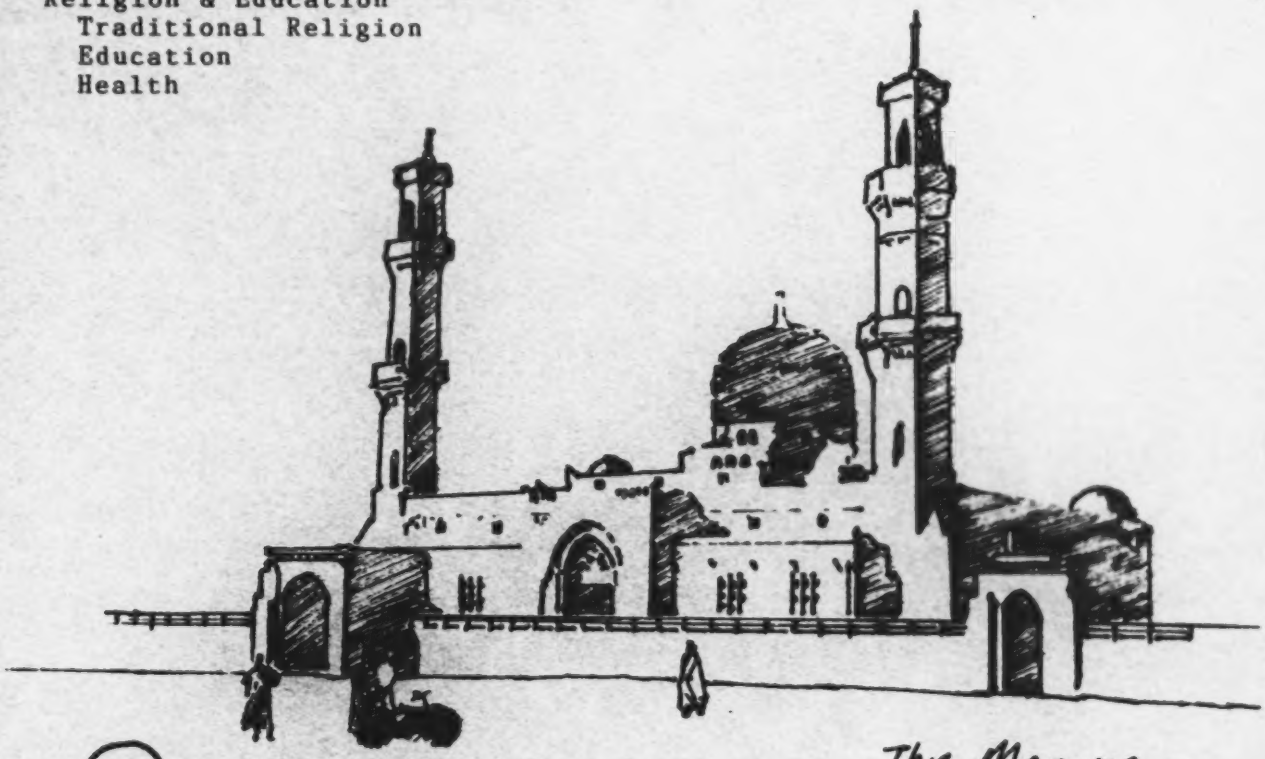
Yussif: I would like to be a teacher but my father is a trader and sons usually follow in their father's footsteps.

Kevin: Well, good luck, Yussif. We enjoyed talking to you.

Yussif: Sai Anjuma, **Kevin.**

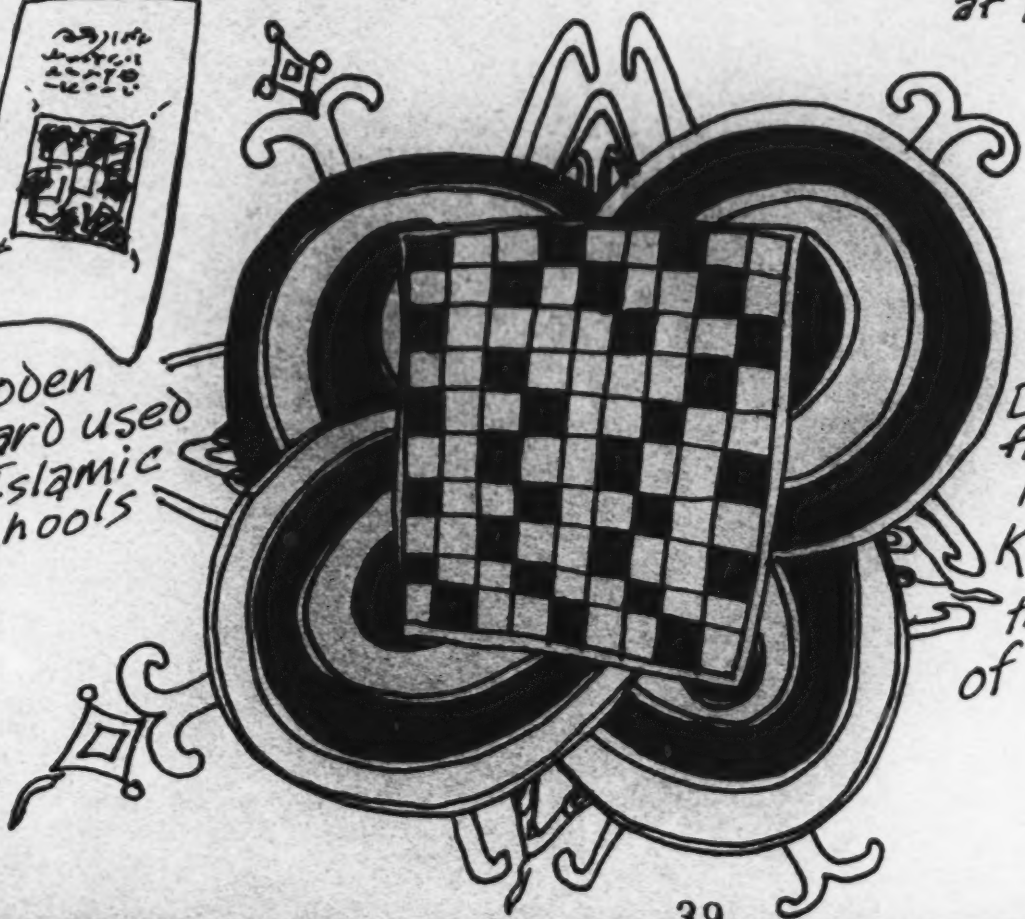
"Sanu, Kevin. That's Hausa for Hello."

Religion & Education
Traditional Religion
Education
Health



The Mosque at Kano

↑ Wooden board used in Islamic schools



← Magic Decoration from a miniature Koran from the Hausa of Nigeria.

TRADITIONAL RELIGION

While many Nigerians today are Muslims or Christians, most people still believe in the traditional religions also.

Traditional believers think there is one high god, many lesser gods, plus ancestor spirits, which are believed to live in rivers, mountains and trees. Nigerians do not worship the mountains etc; they worship the spiritual forces they represent.

Since Nigerians live so close to nature, if their crops dry out or are flooded they may be threatened by starvation. Therefore, they believe it is best to keep the gods on their side.

On all important occasions, prayers and offerings are made to their ancestors. In their prayers Nigerians ask for good health, good crops and for the welfare of the tribe. They do not worship their ancestors; they communicate with them. Different gifts are offered for different reasons. For example: If a person was sick, a sheep may be sacrificed so the person will not die. A wild pig or a duck may be offered to prevent fire. Only a small part of the offering is set aside for the ancestor the rest is shared with the priest, the person making the offering and his family.

EDUCATION

Education is a national passion in Nigeria. A typical Nigerian may speak two or three languages but reads or writes none. Now that Nigeria has free primary education, more than three-quarters of all children go to school. The first six years of school, children may study English but learn their other subjects in their own language. All pupils wear uniforms to school.

Secondary students are very privileged. Only three in ten children go to secondary school. Families don't always have the extra money it costs to let their children continue school. Now students usually have to leave home and live in dormitories at the school, though this is changing. They learn their subjects in English from teachers who come from all over the world.

HEALTH

Nigeria generally has a warm, moist climate. This allows disease-causing bacteria and viruses to be a big threat to man's health and survival.

For centuries Nigerians have sought the advice of the "juju man" (witch doctor) or the herbalist to make them better when they got sick.

A person may know he is sick but he wants to find out why it is he and not his neighbour who is feeling miserable. The medicine man tries to find out. The reason may be anger of an ancestor who has been neglected and is punishing his relative. The medicine man suggests what should be done to satisfy the ancestor. Sometimes an offering of beer may be enough but usually it is necessary to sacrifice a chicken or a goat. This is believed to be a way of speaking to one's ancestors.

Nowadays, in addition to the traditional ways, Nigeria has modern medicine to cure the people.

Because there are many breeding places for the Anopheles mosquito, the carrier of malaria, many people get this disease. The government spends a lot of money spraying insecticide on stagnant water especially in the rainy season to get rid of the mosquitoes. Also doctors tell people to take drugs to stop them from getting the disease. Still malaria is a big health problem.

Many thousands of people go blind in Nigeria every year. Much of this is preventable or can be cured.

In addition to their activities in public health, the government is trying to get the people to realize the benefits of eating the right foods. When the children of Nigeria eat plenty of starches, rice, yams, and millet but not enough milk, eggs, chicken, fish or meat, they often suffer from a disease called Kwashiorkor. Their hair turns a reddish colour and their stomachs get bloated.

People should not bathe in Nigeria's lakes and streams because they may get a disease called Bilharzia, which takes away people's energy.

In Nigeria there is only one doctor for every 36,000

HEALTH CONT'D

people. In Canada there is one for every 650 people.

The Nigerian government is having difficulty getting doctors, medical assistants and nurses to move from the cities to the towns and villages. Recently the government has started a project to study the work of the traditional doctors called herbalists. These people make medicines from the plants and trees. Soon the government hopes to set up a system where these herbalists are regulated by the government to help the people in the rural areas cure their diseases in one of their traditional ways.

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FACTS -- A COMPARISON OF NIGERIA AND CANADA

Fill in the blanks on this sheet.

	CATEGORY	NIGERIA	CANADA
1.	Size (Sq. Kms.)		
2.			24,000,000
3.		West Africa	
4.	Capital City		
5.		English	
6.	Head of State		
7.			July 1, 1867
8.		Oil, Cocoa, Peanuts, Cotton	
9.			St. Lawrence River
10.	Life Expectancy (Yrs)		

ARTS AND CRAFTS

1. Name some of the different traditional arts and crafts found in Nigeria.

   1.

   2.

   3.

   4.

   5.

   6.

2. If you could study one Nigerian art form or craft, which one would you choose? Why?

3. Draw a picture of a Nigerian artist, musician or craftsman practising his/her art.

THE LAND MAP QUESTIONS

Using an atlas select the best answer for the following questions.

1. The Sahel is found

   A. near the mangrove swamps.
   B. in the south-eastern area.
   C. in the north of the country.
   D. in the middle of the country.

2. The capital of Nigeria is

   A. Kano.
   B. Lagos.
   C. Kaduna.
   D. Port Harcourt.

3. The Harmatan is a strong wind which blows across the desert during the dry season. From which direction does the Harmatan blow?

   A. North
   B. East
   C. South
   D. West

4. A city found in the Mangrove Swamp area is

   A. Maiduguri
   B. Port Harcourt
   C. Zaria
   D. Katsina

5. Which of the following cities is found on a delta?

   A. Kano
   B. Kaduna
   C. Ibadan
   D. Port Harcourt

6. The distance from Kano to Lagos is?

   A. 900 kilometers
   B. 1600 kilometers
   C. 500 kilometers
   D. 200 kilometers

7. Which direction would you travel if you went from Kaduna to Kano?

   A. North
   B. East
   C. South
   D. West

8. In which direction does the Niger river flow?

   A. North
   B. East
   C. South
   D. West

THE LAND

Research

Write a short report on one of these topics and tell the class about it.

1. Lake Chad
2. The Niger River
3. Kianji Dam
4. The Benue River

Why do you think Nigeria wants to move its capital city?

advantages	disadvantages
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

Can you name any other countries that moved their capitals?

Where is Canada's capital?

Is it in a good location? Why?

Is there another city in Canada that you think would make a good capital?

Which one?

Why?

AGRICULTURE

Make a list of Nigeria's agricultural products.	List the things you can buy in your city made from these products.	Give the cost of the things you can buy.
A	B	C
1. Animal Hides	1. Handbags	$20.00
	2. Shoes	$20.00
	3. Belts	$10.00
2.	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
3.	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
4.	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
5.	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
6.	1.	
	2.	
	3.	

The average farmer in Nigeria earns about $150.00 a month producing these products.

FOOD

Questions

1. What starchy foods (carbohydrates) are eaten in Canada?

1.	5.
2.	6.
3.	7.
4.	8.

2. Can you name foods we eat that are a starch with meat and a vegetable added.

1.	4.
2.	5.
3.	6.

3. Of the Nigerian foods you have read about, which ones would you like to try?

1. 2.

Why?

4. What type of fruits do you think are grown in Nigeria?

1.	4.
2.	5.
3.	6.

MARKETS

Questions

1. What does the noun "bargain" mean?

2. What does the verb "to bargain" mean?

3. Is bargaining an accepted practice in Canada?

4. Name some things we may bargain for?

Activities

Put the class into pairs. In each pair one student will be the trader (seller) and one the buyer. First they decide what the buyer wants to buy. Then they role-play a bargaining session on their own. Each pair practices its piece. Then two or three pairs are chosen to perform in front of the class.

Pretend you have a stall in a market in Nigeria. Decide what you sell. Write an advertisement for that product, or make a sign for your stall.

INDUSTRY

1. Name some of Nigeria's industries.

   1. 4.

   2. 5.

   3. 6.

2. What things does Nigeria buy (import) from other countries?

   Think about:
   - . Food
   - . Clothing
   - . Housing
   - . Health
   - . Education
   - . Transportation
   - . Communication
   - . Entertainment

   1. 4.

   2. 5.

   3. 6.

3. Make a list of some of the industries you think Nigeria should develop. Which new industries do you think would be the most important for Nigeria's development and which are less important.

   1. 5.

   2. 6.

   3. 7.

   4. 8.

4. Do you think it is better to import the goods the people need or make the things they need themselves? Why?

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

NIGERIAN CHILDREN

1. Name three ways in which the Nigerian family is the same as a Canadian family.

   1.

   2.

   3.

2. Name three ways in which the families of Nigeria and Canada are different.

   1.

   2.

   3.

3. Name two ways in which a Nigerian family takes care of its members.

   1.

   2.

SELF HELP

1. In groups decide on some self-help projects which you think may help your community.

   1.

   2.

   3.

   4.

RURAL LIFE

HOUSING

Draw the outside of a Hausa compound and decorate it. Remember, Muslims do not use human or animal forms in their decoration.

TRIBALISM

1. In groups make up a short story in which someone is helped by belonging to a tribe.

   Think about:
   - Unemployment.
   - A death in the family.
   - Not enough money for education.
   - Crop failure.

2. Can you think of reasons why a Nigerian may no longer want to belong to his/her tribe?

3. Is it more important to belong to a tribe if you live in a city or a village? Why?

CLOTHING

1. If you went to Nigeria what clothes would you wear? Why?

2. What fabrics would be best for the climate?

3. Why do you think Nigerian traditional clothes are popular?

4. Name two reasons why you think people who live in cities wear western dress more often than villagers.

5. Which do you think is more practical for Nigerians; traditional Nigerian clothing or western clothing such as what is worn by most people here? Why?

Pretend you are visiting one of the Nigerian boys you read about -- Emeka, Ayo or Yussif. Write a brief entry in your diary telling about your visit for each day of the week.

TRADITIONAL RELIGION

1. Name some reasons why a Nigerian might want to communicate with his ancestors.

   eg. Sickness in the family.

   1.

   2.

   3.

   4.

   5.

EDUCATION

1. Children in Nigeria go to a local primary school. There is free primary education for all children. List six subjects you think Nigerian children should learn in Grade 6, which in Nigeria is called Standard 6. Tell why the subjects you choose would be important for them to study.

   1.

   2.

   3.

   4.

   5.

   6

2. Are the subjects you recommended for Nigerian schools the same as your subjects? Which subjects do you think should be the same? Why? Which subjects should be different? Why?

3. Nigerian children wear uniforms to school. Do you think this is a good idea? Why? Why not?

4. Secondary students in Nigeria often go to boarding schools. List some of the reasons why you think boarding schools might be necessary in Nigeria.

   Think about:
   - Numbers of students able to go to secondary schools.
   - Distances.
   - Roads and transportation.
   - Home life of students.

   1.

   2.

   3.

   4.

   5.

HEALTH

1. List some of the reasons why a Nigerian villager might need to visit a health clinic to see a doctor.

   1.

   2.

   3.

   4.

2. Name some of the reasons people in Canada go to the doctor?

   1.

   2.

   3.

   4.

3. Do Nigerian patients have the same problems Canadian patients have? What health problems would be the same? Different? Why do you think there are differences?

4. Name some of the health professionals in your country.

   1. 4.

   2. 5.

   3. 6.

5. What healers are found in Nigeria who are not part of the health profession in Canada?

6. Why are these healers important in Nigeria?

CITY LIFE

Research:

We have talked about Nigeria's biggest cities Kano, Ibadan and Lagos. Find out about another city in Nigeria. Show the class where it is on the map and tell them what you have learned about it.

Questions

Canadian cities have many problems. Can you name some of them?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Do you think Nigerian cities have the same problems? Which ones? What other problems do you think Nigerian cities have.?

1.

2.

3.

Debate, or Class or Group Discussion

It is better to live in a village in Nigeria than in a city.

Which city in Nigeria would you like to live in? Why?

Pretend you are visiting Nigeria. Make a post card to send to a friend in Canada. On one side draw a picture of where you are or something interesting in Nigeria. On the other side, put the message & address.

T-18

In Groups

Plan a trip in Nigeria from Kaduna to Kano.

Find the places on a map. How far apart are they?

What types of transportation could you use? Which type would you choose?

	Naira ₦	Give Amount in $
1. Mini Bus (Van)	10	
2. Car	8	
3. Taxi	45	
4. Train	10	
5. Plane	50	

In Groups

Answer these questions:

1. How long would the trip take?
2. Tell about the vegetation (trees, grass).
3. What towns and cities would you pass through?
4. What would the houses look like?
5. What would the weather be like?
6. What would the people be wearing?
7. What would your travelling companions eat?
8. What language do the people of the north speak?

Quiz NAME :

True or False:

1. Most of Nigeria is jungle.

2. Palm oil is used in making soap.

3. Most Nigerian farmers can be called subsistence farmers.

4. In most of Nigeria, when a couple marries, they move into an apartment of their own.

5. Nigeria gets 85% of its foreign income from agriculture.

6. Traditional houses in northern Nigeria are made mainly of mud.

7. Friday is the Muslim Holy Day.

8. Nigerians worship their ancestors.

9. Thousands of Nigerians go blind each year.

10. Nigeria continued to progress when the slave trade was at its height.

Quiz Name:

1. Name one Nigerian language._____

2. Christianity is one of Nigeria's most important religions. Name a second religion practised by millions of people._____

3. Name one Nigerian politician._____

4. Name one agricultural product Canada may buy from Nigeria._____

5. What European language is Nigeria's official language?_____

6. What river flows through Nigeria?_____

7. Name one of the three largest cities in Nigeria._____

8. What product, that Nigeria exports, brings the country most of its foreign exchange?_____

9. Name one of Nigeria's largest tribes._____

10. What metal is mined in central Nigeria?_____

Match the words in Column A to the definitions in Column B.

A		B
1.	Bride price	1. The traditional religious and political leader in the north.
2.	savanna	2. The tribe with the most people in Nigeria. Most of them live in the north.
3.	mangroves	3. Large trees that put their branches into the mud and then grow new trunks.
4.	malaria	4. A disease caused by the Anopholes mosquito.
5.	fufu	5. The holy book of the Muslims.
6.	Koran	6. The title a man gets in front of his name after he has been on a pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudia Arabia.
7.	Alhaji	7. The money a man pays to the parents of the girl he wants to marry.
8.	emir	8. The plains, with few trees found in central Nigeria.
9.	Hausa	9. A fruit that resembles a banana but is bigger, less sweet and starchier.
10.	plantain	10. A type of porridge (dough) made from pounded yam.

Activity

Here is a list of some important occupations in Nigeria. First in groups then as a class decide which three are the most important and which three are the least important to Nigeria's development.

1. politician
2. farmer
3. medicine man
4. day care worker
5. trader
6. truck driver
7. doctor
8. teacher
9. oil rig worker
10. Emir or Oba

Most Important	Least Important
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

Explain why you think this is so.

_____

_____

_____

INTRODUCTORY SLIDES

SLIDE 1 This Nigerian horseman is riding in a Durbar, which is a competition where northern tribal leaders demonstrate their skill on horseback. On special occasions these men show their allegiance to the Emir who is their traditional ruler. Dressed in their finest clothes these horsemen charge at full speed across a field toward the Emir and then pull up their horses within a few feet of reaching him.

SLIDE 2 Geoffrey Gorer, an author of books on Nigeria wrote, "Nigerians dance for joy and they dance for grief; they dance for love and they dance for hate; they dance to bring good times and to stop bad times; they dance for religion and they dance to pass the time."

SLIDE 3 This is a group of Hausa musicians from the north playing their traditional musical instruments: a three-stringed instrument called a molo and reed flutes called algaitas. Music, especially singing, has always been important to the peoples of Nigeria.

SLIDE 4 The use of tribal masks goes back to prehistoric times. Since then, masks have been worn mainly in religious ceremonial dances, when the people ask for help from the gods for their crops or to mourn deaths or to celebrate births. Some masks are deliberately terrifying to frighten away the people who were not welcome at secret ceremonies.

SLIDE 5 These beautiful bougainvillea flowers decorate many public buildings, homes and boulevards all over Nigeria.

SLIDE 6 Although Nigerian women wear a lot of jewellery, these beads are reserved for highly-thought-of men and women who have earned the respect of the community. They are worn only on special occasions.

* * *

(These are descriptions of the first 6 slides. They are not spoken in the slide-tape presentation.)

* * *

THE LAND

SLIDE 7 The Federation of Nigeria is a hot, sunny land right near the equator in Africa. It is about the same size as British Columbia but there the comparison ends.

SLIDE 8 Nigeria's population of about 100 million people is more than four times the population of all of Canada. Of all the people who live in the 40 countries of Black Africa one quarter of them live in Nigeria.

SLIDE 9 This is mangrove swamp country, shown by the coloured area on the map. The rainfall here in the swamp is about three times more than the rain a city like Vancouver or Seattle gets. Crocodiles and plenty of mosquitoes live here.

SLIDE 10 Next comes tropical rainforest. This is the jungle that many people think of when they think of Africa. Today much of the original forest is no longer there. It has been cut down by the lumber companies and the farmers to make clearings for their farms.

SLIDE 11 North of the forest region the vegetation thins out and the savanna which is like our prairies gradually takes over. The savanna is mainly grass with a few large trees.

SLIDE 12 Further to the north stretches more savanna but the land begins to look empty, ready to drift into desert. Although there is still farming and cattle grazing here, crop failure and water shortages are common. To fight this the government is spending huge amounts of money to drill for water and to grow trees in this area.

SLIDE 13 In spite of these efforts the Sahara Desert is spreading southward into this region at a rate of about thirty kilometers a year.

SLIDE 14 The baobab is one of the few trees that grow here. It is an ancient and peculiar tree. According to legend, the devil plucked it up, thrust its branches into the earth and left its roots in the air.

AGRICULTURE

SLIDE 15 On the dry plain in the north of Nigeria, cattle raising is a major activity. It is practised by Fulani shepherds who wander from place to place looking for water and grass for their animals.

SLIDE 16 This woman is harvesting groundnuts, what we know as peanuts. The peanuts are put in sacks which are then -

SLIDE 17 stacked in enormous pyramids, built so high they look like the tombs of the ancient pharaohs. The farmers peanuts are sold overseas to Europe and America where they are crushed to make margarine and cooking oils and your favourite -- peanut butter.

SLIDE 18 Cotton is also grown in the north. Cotton is spun into thread and then woven into material to make cool clothes for Nigerians to wear in their hot climate.

SLIDE 19 One of the main food crops of the north is guinea corn.

SLIDE 20 Grains such as guinea corn are stored in circular graineries -- earthenware jars so large children are sometimes lowered into them to ladel out grain.

SLIDE 21 When the grain is needed for food it is pounded using a mortar and pestal to make flour. It is then made into porridge which is served with a spicy sauce.

SLIDE 22 Chances are the chocolate bars and chocolate cake you enjoy so much are made from the cocoa that comes from Nigeria. Cocoa grows in pods on trees in the south of the country.

NATURAL RESOURCES

SLIDE 23 This is a tin mine in central Nigeria. First a high pressure hydrolic hose fills the mine site with water to wash away the tin ore from the land. Later the miners collect the tin from the grates in the sluice box. Finally, we see the tin ore which has been mined. This important metal is exported to many countries. (Tin has probably been used in this region since prehistoric times.)

SLIDE 24 Large quantities of oil found along the south-east shoreline have made Nigeria the sixth largest oil producer in the world.
(The people have been promised a great deal because of the oil.)

TRADITIONAL RURAL LIFE

SLIDE 25 Villages in Nigeria can look very different from each other. Many of the homes now have corrigated metal roofs.

SLIDE 26 In the savanna the houses often have thatched roofs and look like mushrooms.

SLIDE 27 In the north they are made with thick mud walls, which keep the homes cool. However different the villages look though, they share some common problems. Villages rarely have electricity. There are water shortages and a lack of medical facilities. Also there are seldom enough schools.

SLIDE 28 In the rural areas most people still follow traditional ways of life. In traditional families the older children take care of the younger. There is no need for daycare centers or babysitters.

SLIDE 29 This woman is wearing a typical traditional Nigerian outfit. Her blouse is called a bubu and her skirt a wrapper. She is carrying a gourd on her head which is a popular way of transporting things in Africa.

CITY LIFE

SLIDE 30 Farmers, especially the young, are leaving their land everyday because the prices paid to them for the things they grow, like peanuts and cocoa, are much less than what they can earn in the city. The recent oil wealth has speeded up the rush to the cities to work for the government. Jobs that pay money are important so people can buy the new luxuries that are now available in the city's shops.

SLIDE 31 Kano is one of the great ancient cities of Africa. People lived here a thousand years ago. The city is built entirely of mud. Now, more than a million people live here.

SLIDE 32 This is the way to Lagos, Nigeria's capital on the southern coast. Lagos is one of the fastest growing cities in the world and the most expensive to live in.

SLIDE 33 It is a very modern place -- it is busier, faster and more westernized than the rest of Nigeria.

SLIDE 34 People moving from the rural areas think life will be better for them in the city. But they may find they must live in these packing-crate shanties. These shanty-towns, with no sanitation facilities, can be seen -

SLIDE 35 next to these modern, air-conditioned skyscrapers.

SLIDE 36 The government has spent a lot of money on housing projects. These are mainly apartment buildings for middle-class workers. But when the young people come from the villages they often stay with relatives living here and they have become overcrowded, with six or eight people living in a room.

MARKETS

SLIDE 37 Outdoor markets are the shopping centers of Nigeria. Most people cannot afford supermarket luxuries so they shop here in the local markets, where they can buy just about anything and where they have been shopping for centuries.
(The big cities of Nigeria have air-conditioned supermarkets where housewives shop for canned or frozen foods just as they do in Canada.)

SLIDE 38 Traders -- the people who sell things in the market like these men selling shirts -- must get there early before the heat of the day, to set up their stalls. Everything is bargained for. Nobody would think of paying the first price asked.

HISTORY

SLIDE 39 This sculpture shows there was a highly developed civilization in Nigeria as long as 2500 years ago. At this time the people were in the middle of the iron age. We know this because they used iron tools to make the sculpture.
(With iron tools it was also possible to hunt and farm better, and iron weapons made it easier for people to defend themselves.)

SLIDE 40 About 600 years ago these beautiful life-like leopards were cast in bronze at Ife, an important city-state in the southern part of the country.

SLIDE 41 After the 1500's the city states, which had been thriving for hundreds of years, began to fall apart. The people could no longer farm or trade in safety. The reason was the slave-raids -- Africans capturing Africans to sell to Europeans as slaves. During the 400 years the slave trade existed, about six million of West Africa's youngest and most vigorous people were taken by ships to the new world. These people are the ancestors of the many black people who live today in North and South America and the Carribean.

SLIDE 42 This man is an Oba. They are the traditional rulers of Yoruba cities in the south-west of Nigeria. In the old days, Obas were all-powerful -- their word was law.

SLIDE 43 The man on horse-back is an Emir. They are important spiritual leaders as well as the traditional political leaders in the north.

SLIDE 44 The British first came to Nigeria to trade but they stayed on to rule for about fifty years.

SLIDE 45 On October 1, 1960 Nigeria gained its independence from Great Britain.
(Two years later Nigeria became a democratic republic.)

SLIDE 46 Things did not go smoothly for Nigeria after Independence. Often people of different tribes didn't get along and there were cries of government corruption. In 1966 the military seized control of the government and Yakubu Gowan at age thirty-one became Head of State.

SLIDE 47 The military stayed in power until in 1979 the people went to the polls and voted Alhaji Shehu Shagari as president. Nigeria remained a democracy until on December 31, 1983, President Shagari was deposed by the military.

THE PEOPLE

SLIDE 48 There are about 250 ethnic groups in Nigeria but most of the people belong to four main tribes. These girls are Fulani, a nomadic people who roam northern Nigeria with their cattle. Many Fulani are tall and slender.

SLIDE 49 This is a Hausa girl. She is made up for a special holiday. Hausa-speaking people are the most numerous in Nigeria. They live mainly in the north. It seems the Hausa are a mixture of races who all speak the same language.

SLIDE 50 Now I would like you to meet Abbas and Lola. Lola is a Yoruba girl. She is wearing her favourite blue outfit. The Yoruba people tend to live in the cities of the south-western region. Here is an example of the Yoruba language:

SLIDE 51 This girl is one of the Ibo people. The Ibos are the largest tribe in south-eastern Nigeria but they have long lived throughout the country.

RELIGION

SLIDE 52 This is a mosque in Kano. Most of the millions of people who live in northern Nigeria are Muslims who worship at a mosque. Friday is their holy day and at noon on that day all the men go to the mosque and bow down to pray facing Mecca in Saudia Arabia, which is their spiritual capital.
(Muslims usually pray five times a day.)

SLIDE 53 Large Christian churches are found in all major cities but especially in the south. Nigerians have also established their own versions of Christianity, free from the cultural influences of Europeans.

SLIDE 54 These sculptures form a shrine where people come to talk to Shango, the god of thunder. This is part of the traditional religion of the people.

EDUCATION

SLIDE 55 Now that Nigeria has free primary education more than three-quarters of all the children go to school. These children have taken time out from a crafts class.

SLIDE 56 These Nigerian students are very privileged. Only three in ten children go to secondary school. Families don't always have the extra money it costs to let their children continue school.

THE END

SLIDE 57 Despite Nigeria's wealth and ambition, its development is bound to take a long time. This Hausa warrior is facing his challenge with the courage, vigor and determination that Nigeria must show when dealing with its future. Let's wish them luck. The rest of the world will be watching.